

Torrance, California
May 24, 1949

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, May 24, 1949, at 8:06 p.m., Mayor Sherfey presiding.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Jackson moved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on May 10th and of the Special Meeting on May 20th be approved as read. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Sherfey called for written communications and Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter, jointly signed by the Commanders of Disabled American Veterans, Veteran of Foreign Wars and American Legion requesting the amendment or revocation of the ordinance banning fireworks. Councilman Drale moved that the present City Ordinance be revoked and a new one drawn. Councilman Powell requested that the motion be reworded to include "with the recommendation of the Fire Chief". The motion was so amended and received a second by Councilman Powell and was carried unanimously.

Letter from the Department of Commerce, Civil Aeronautics Administration, requesting that they be advised when Building No. 40, located at the Torrance Municipal Airport and now occupied by the National Guard, would be made available for airport purposes. Councilman Jackson moved that the communication be referred to the City Manager. Motion was seconded by Councilman Powell and carried unanimously.

Letter from City Dump & Salvage, Inc., of Long Beach, applying for a permit to operate an oil sump clean-up business. A lengthy discussion followed with members of the Council, Mr. Middough (of City Dump) and Mr. Buren (attorney for Mr. Middough) all participating. Councilman Drale moved that the matter be held for the next regular meeting to give the Council and Planning Commission time to look over the proposed site. After further discussion, the motion was seconded by Councilman Powell, and was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard.

Letter from the Torrance Area Youth Bands relative to the continued financial support by the City and requesting an audience after the first of June. Councilman Jackson moved that the matter be referred to the committee preparing the budget. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and unanimously carried.

Letter from Mrs. Blanche Nagy stating that the employees of National Supply were forming a Glee Club and Choral Group and requesting use of the Auditorium, free of charge, one night a week between 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Councilman Jackson moved that the request be granted, subject to the Auditorium being free. Motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and unanimously carried.

Letter from The Indoor Sports' Club, Inc., a national club for the physically disabled, requesting permission for a "Tag Day" in Torrance sometime in June. Councilman Drale moved that the request be granted, subject to investigation by the Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried. Clerk Bartlett advised the Council that investigation had already been made and the organization was a very worthy one.

Letter from Mr. L. G. Walters, Walteria, requesting permission to park trailer on the back of his lot for two or three months for sleeping purposes only. Councilman Drale moved request be granted. Councilman Powell explained that City's policy had been to grant such permission only if a new dwelling was being erected and owner wished to live on premises during construction. Receiving no "second", Councilman Drale's motion was declared lost. Councilman Powell moved that City Manager investigate occupied trailers parked on residential lots. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, was unanimously carried. Councilman Jackson moved Mr. Walters' request be denied; seconded by Councilman Haggard. Motion carried by following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

Letter from Mike Vartonian requesting refund on his 1949 City license, having removed his fertilizer pile from 166th and Crenshaw. Councilman Jackson moved request be granted; seconded by Councilman Drale and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Letter from Tom Babbitt submitting his resignation from Civil Service Board to accept appointment on Recreation Commission. Councilman Drale moved resignation be accepted and a letter of commendation be sent Mr. Babbitt for his fine work and co-operation as member of Civil Service Board. Seconded by Councilman Powell, motion was unanimously carried.

Application of Clarence E. and Helen E. Fulton, purchasers of "Chuck's Cab Service", for taxi cab permit. Councilman Powell moved permit be granted; motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried.

Statement of expenses, submitted by Councilman N. O. Drale, incurred by Council meetings attended. Councilman Powell moved request be granted and referred to Cashier for voucher. Mayor Sherfey asked City Attorney Smith if he had not previously ruled they could not approve such expense. Mr. Smith replied his previous opinion was based on the matter as presented at that time; that Mr. Drale

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had not shown him this statement of expense and until he knew just what it covered, he was not in a position to rule on whether or not it could be paid. Councilman Powell's motion having received no second was declared lost. He then moved the matter be referred to City Attorney Smith for an opinion. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens were presented. On motion by Councilman Drale, seconded by Councilman Powell and unanimously carried, items were voted on separately, as follows:

PERSONNEL:

1. That Mr. E. A. Lloyd be temporarily retained as Planning Engineer, effective May 15, 1949, to assist in modernizing City's Land Use Plan; compensation to be \$200.00 per month for services to be rendered as outlined in letter on file in City Manager's office.

Councilman Powell moved the appointment be made, subject to satisfaction of the letter on file. Upon question by Councilman Jackson, motion was rephrased -- that Mr. Lloyd be retained as outlined. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

2. That Connie R. Rider be temporarily employed as Typist-Clerk, effective May 16, 1949; compensation at \$176.00 per month.

Councilman Jackson moved that Council concur in recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. That classification for Legal Stenographer be adopted and Civil Service Board authorized to hold examination for position.

Motion by Councilman Jackson that Council concur in recommendation; seconded by Councilman Powell and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

4. That salary schedule for Electrician's Helper be changed from \$193.00 - \$231.00 to \$211.00 - \$253.00. Recommendation made because of increased responsibilities and duties.

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Powell and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

5. That Engineering Department be authorized to employ Transitman and two Chainmen on temporary basis.

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. That bid of Warren-Southwest, Inc., for improvement of portion of Hawthorne Boulevard, be accepted in conformance with recommendation of Division of Highways that contract be so awarded and with additional provision that base material be increased from 5" to 6" and plant-mix surfacing be increased from 2" to 2½", adding an estimated \$3,975.00 to bid, and that all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Powell, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

2. For purchase of road materials, sum of \$1,400 (from State Gas Tax Funds).

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

3. For purchase of lighting standards and luminaires, sum of \$900.00 (a budget item).

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

4. For purchase of street signs, sum of \$500.00 (from Unappropriated Reserve).

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

5. For payment to Barclay Surveying Company for survey services, sum of \$320.00 (Walteria Sewer District).

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

6. For return of Plan deposit to Matt T. Zaich, sum of \$5.00.

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That additions and changes to Airport Agreement recommended by C.A.A. be approved and incorporated in final Agreement for management of Torrance Municipal Airport.

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

2. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign escrow instructions for ordering of Grant Deed from Charles H. Quandt and Hanna Quandt to City of Torrance.

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

3. That City accept sale of 18" sewer line and manholes in Crenshaw Boulevard between 203rd Street and Dominguez Street from Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, and Mayor and City Clerk authorized to sign acceptance.

Councilman Drale asked for clarification. Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Powell and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett presented communication from Planning Commission. Councilman Drale moved the matters contained therein be taken up separately. Motion seconded by Councilman Powell and unanimously carried.

1. Formal action was taken recommending to City Council that Land Use Ordinance No. 316 and Subdivision Ordinance No. 437 be amended, reducing minimum building site area required from 6000 to 5000 square feet. Reason for recom-

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mendation: to avoid undue hardship on subdividers who want to build small homes in Torrance, and to conform with standard practice of other cities in Los Angeles County.

Councilman Drale moved for non-concurrence. Motion received no second. Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred back to the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, defeated by following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey.

Councilman Jackson moved Council concur in recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Powell.

2. Request of Angel Molinar for permission to put Pool Hall in rear of grocery store, located on southwest corner of 203rd Street and Arlington Avenue, denied. Commission felt room too small and not suitable for this purpose.

Councilman Powell moved Council concur with action taken by Planning Commission. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

3. Re-approval of revised Tract Map No. 15933, as recommended by City Engineering Department, recommended to Council.

Councilman Jackson moved Council concur in recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

4. Tentative Tract Map No. 16065 (plot of land owned by O. G. Cantrell which he desires to divide into six parcels) recommended to Council for approval. Mr. Cantrell agrees to dedicate 5' along Huntington Street for street purposes. Tract is located on northeast corner of Huntington Street and Arlington Avenue.

Councilman Jackson moved Council concur in recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard. Question was raised as to approximate size of parcel. City Manager Stevens advised it is 8 acres, to be divided into two 2-acre pieces and four 1-acre pieces. Motion unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1992

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF THAT CERTAIN "AGREEMENT FOR JOINT USE" OVER A PORTION OF LOT "F" OF THE PARTITION OF THE RANCHO LOS PALOS VERDES DATED THE 8TH DAY OF APRIL, 1949, AND EXECUTED BY THE TEXAS COMPANY, A CORPORATION; RATIFYING EACH AND EVERY PROVISION OF SAME, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT FOR AND ON BEHALF OF SAID CITY; AGREEING TO THE IMPOSITION OF THE FUTURE CONTINGENT LIABILITIES SET FORTH AND DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 THEREOF; AND BY REFERENCE HERETO MADE A PART OF THIS RESOLUTION, TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES AS IF THE SAME WERE HERE AND NOW SET FORTH IN THIS RESOLUTION VERBATIM.

Councilman Jackson moved for adoption of Resolution No. 1992. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 1993

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF THAT CERTAIN "AGREEMENT FOR JOINT USE" OVER A PORTION OF LOT "F" OF THE PALOS VERDES PARTITION OF 1882 DATED THE 8TH DAY OF APRIL, 1949, AND EXECUTED BY THE TEXAS COMPANY, A CORPORATION; RATIFYING EACH AND EVERY PROVISION OF SAME, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT FOR AND ON BEHALF OF SAID CITY; AGREEING TO THE IMPOSITION OF THE FUTURE CONTINGENT LIABILITIES SET FORTH AND DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 THEREOF; AND BY REFERENCE HERETO MADE A PART OF THIS RESOLUTION, TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES AS IF THE SAME WERE HERE AND NOW SET FORTH IN THIS RESOLUTION VERBATIM.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 1993. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 1994

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ABANDONING CERTAIN WATER PIPE LINES AND RIGHTS OF WAY ORIGINALLY OWNED BY TORRANCE WATER, LIGHT & POWER COMPANY, AND AN EASEMENT COVERING THE SAME, SAID EASEMENT BEING RECORDED IN BOOK 7024, AT PAGE 264, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WHICH SAID FACILITIES AND RIGHTS OF WAY WERE SUBSEQUENTLY ACQUIRED BY TORRANCE MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 UNDER DATE OF DECEMBER 24, 1934, SAID LINES AND RIGHTS OF WAY DESCRIBED IN THE MARCH 22, 1926 EASEMENT TO THE TORRANCE WATER, LIGHT & POWER COMPANY AS NOS. 7, 8, 9 AND 10, AND RIGHT OF WAY IN LOT B, TRACT NO. 1427, AND ANNULLING, CANCELLING, RESCINDING AND REVOKING RESOLUTION NO. 1953.

Councilman Jackson moved for adoption of Resolution No. 1994. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read titles to urgency ordinances as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 464

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GOVERNING RODENT CONTROL.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of Ordinance No. 464 be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, unanimously carried by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 464 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 465

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING STOP SIGNS ON CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND ESTABLISHING 25-MILE PER HOUR ZONES.

Councilman Drale moved further reading of Ordinance No. 465 be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, unanimously carried by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 465 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 466

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ABANDONED EXCAVATIONS; DECLARING THE URGENCY OF THIS ORDINANCE AND TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

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Councilman Powell moved further reading of Ordinance No. 466 be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, unanimously carried by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 466 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 467

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING NOXIOUS OR DANGEROUS WEEDS GROWING UPON THE STREETS OR SIDEWALKS OR UPON PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND DECLARING RUBBISH, REFUSE OR DIRT UPON PARKWAYS, SIDEWALKS OR PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO BE A PUBLIC NUISANCE; CREATING A LIEN UPON THE PROPERTY FRONTING UPON SUCH STREETS OR SIDEWALKS OR UPON WHICH SUCH NUISANCE EXISTS FOR THE COST OF ABATING THE SAME.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of Ordinance No. 467 be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, unanimously carried by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 467 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved that copy of Ordinance be sent Mrs. Brown. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, unanimously carried.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Drale advised that A. M. Barnard, against whom City previously had suit pending, has piled dirt and refuse to a height of 3 and 4 feet, causing a condition worse than before. He requested City Attorney look into the matter. He also advised that the owner of one of the manure piles in North Torrance has exceeded his 90-day stay, which also should be acted upon. This was declared a motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Powell read a letter from the Square Dance Class, presently meeting in the high school. Group requested use of Auditorium on Monday nights throughout summer. Councilman Powell moved the matter be referred to Recreation Commission, with Council's concurrence in suggestion. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell submitted name of J. Austin Beasley as member of Recreation Commission.

Councilman Powell moved that 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month be set aside as Agenda Meetings of the City Council. After some discussion, motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the future alley on Tract Map No. 11732 be rejected and that Final Map be accepted. Councilman Haggard so moved. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. Councilman Drale did not vote.

Mayor Sherfey moved for appointment of Mr. Bud Lee and Mr. Patronskey to the Recreation Commission. Councilman Jackson so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Commander Mason (Hollywood Riviera) discussed at length City's transactions a year ago with Sunhaven Properties and pending Trust Deed Sale. Members of the Council, City Attorney Smith and Jack Baldwin (Torrance Herald) participated in discussion. Councilman Powell recommended whatever action deemed necessary to protect the City be taken by City Attorney.

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Mr. Black (Torrance Manor) raised several questions. First, Mr. Vartonian has been hauling manure in, not removing it. Second, would City plant trees in Torrance Manor to replace those removed. Councilman Powell advised a tree-planting program was being considered under the new budget. Third, could the street sweeper go down the alleys. He was advised possibly some arrangement could be made. Fourth, street lighting in Torrance Manor. Councilman Powell suggested Mr. Black and his committee discuss the matter with City Manager after meeting. Fifth, school site near tract. Mayor Sherfey advised question should properly come before the Board of Education.

Commander Mason thanked City Manager Stevens for fine manner in which Hollywood Riviera streets are being kept clean.

Councilman Drale complimented students on the fine manner in which City's business was conducted on Junior Statemen's Day.

Mr. Schultz (Torrance Manor), inquired as to fire station for that area. City Manager Stevens advised 5 acres had just been acquired at 174th and Yukon and station would be erected this summer.

Councilman Powell moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:55 p.m., on motion by Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Powell and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

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CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE